GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3767
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
DECREASING OF INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there has been a continuous decrease in investment in the agricultural sector;

(b) If so, the reasons therefore ;

(c) Whether the Government has formulated any scheme to enhance investment in agriculture sector; and

(d) If so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): There was a decrease in investment in agriculture from Rs.20024 crore in 1999-2000 to Rs.19809 crore in 2000-01. However, investment in agriculture increased to Rs.20458 crore in 2001-02 and to Rs.21867 crore in 2002-03.

(c) & (d): With a view to enhancing investment in agriculture so as to boost agriculture production and productivity, the Government have identified the following areas for focused and priority attention.

Doubling Rural Credit in three years, easing the burden of debt and high interest rate;

Dry Land Farming, promotion of Horticulture production and Water Management;

Creation of additional irrigation facilities;

Marketing support to farmer`s produce for ensuring fair and remunerative prices;

Assistance to the farmers under various agricultural and horticultural production programmes;

Insurance of crops against production loss due to natural calamities.